

Remarks

The Office Action of March 22, 2007 by Examiner Vanaman has been carefully reviewed by the undersigned attorney. In that Office Action, the Examiner noted that the previously filed Amendment was not fully responsive due to the failure to specifically traverse the rejection of claims 26-29 as being anticipated by Young. The undersigned attorney will herein rectify this deficiency.

Amended Claims 26 and 28

Independent claims 26 and 28 both require:

"an electric wheel motor operably coupled between said electrical generator and at least one of said plurality of ground engaging wheels for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel...". (Emphasis Added)

In Young, each electric motor that drives one of the rear drive wheels 25, namely either motor 30, is operably coupled between the battery 95 and the drive wheel 25 as demonstrated by the solid line circuit connection from the drive motors 30 to the battery. See Fig. 4 of Young. There is no solid line circuit connection from the drive motors 30 to the generator 97. The generator 97 only serves to recharge the battery when needed and there is only a dotted line circuit connection from the generator to the battery alone. Thus, the limitation of claims 26 and 28 set forth above does not appear to be found in Young and the 102 application of Young to claims 26-29 should be reconsidered.

In considering claims 26-29, the Examiner is reminded that the reference to Steele discloses electric drive motors

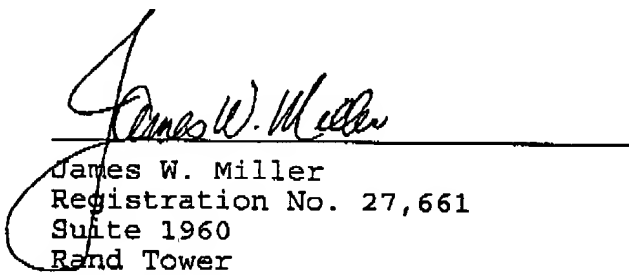
in a mower that are connected between a generator and ground engaging wheel(s), rather than being connected between a battery and the ground engaging wheels as in Young. Note the embodiment of Fig. 5 of Steele and Col. 5 of Steele, Lines 23-33.

Summary

The remarks contained above constitute a specific traversal of the Examiner's 102 application of Young to claims 26-29. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to now act on the previously filed Amendment in light of the additional remarks contained herein regarding claims 26-29.

Respectfully presented,

May 17, 2007



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